Message Text

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UNCLAS ROME 7636

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, UNWFC, OCON

SUBJ: WORLD FOOD COUNCIL - OPENING DAY

REF: ROME 7527

- 1. OPENING STATEMENT BY WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (WFC) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOHN HANNAH STRESSED THAT IN PREPARING DOCUMENTS AND DRAFT RESOLUTIONS THE SECRETARIAT HAD GIVEN SPECIAL CONSIDERATION TO INCORPORATING THE THRUST AND INTENT OF RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED BY THE GROUP OF 77 AND THE 2ND SESSION. HANNAH STRESSED FOOD SECURITY AS HIGHEST PRIORITY FOR COUNCIL.
- 2. UPON WITHDRAWAL OF THE CANDIDACY OF SAYED MAREI FOR RE-ELECTION TO THE PRESIDENCY, PROCEDURAL MATTERS WERE DECIDED WITH LITTLE DEBATE.
- 3. U.S. PROPOSALFOR MAKING THE DISCUSSION OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION THE CENTRAL FOCUS AND FINAL SUBSTANTIVE ITEM ON THE AGENDA WAS ACCEPTED WITH SUPPORT BOTH FROM DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
- 4. IN ORDER TO RESERVE TIME FOR DEBATE OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS, UNCLASSIFIED

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DELEGATES ACCEPTED WITH LITTLE DISCUSSION THE INFORMATIONAL REPORTS ON WORLD FOOD SITUATION AND FOLLOW-UP TO WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS.

5. OPENING DEBATE ON MEASURES FOR INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOCUSED ALMOST ENTIRELY ON DRAFT RESOLUTION PREPARDED BY THE SECRETARIAT. DEBATE CENTERED

ON DESIGNATION OF FOOD PRIOIRTY COUNTRIES AND SETTING OF TARGETS FOR PRODUCTION INCREASES AND CONTRIBUTIONS, WITH DEVELOPED COUNTRIES EXPRESSING REASONED RELUCTANCE. AFTER DEBATE HAD CONTINUED SOME TIME, PAKISTAN (SPEAKING FOR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF 77) ANNOUNCED THAT THE GROUP OF 77 WORKING ON ALTERNATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION, AND UNTIL THESE WERE READY THE GROUP OF 77 RECOMMENDATIONS OFFERED AT THE 2ND SESSION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TO BE THEIR POSITION. U.S. QUESTIONED THIS PROCEDURE. FURTHER DISCUSSION WAS THEN DEFERRED UNTIL TUESDAY MORNING SO THAT NEW GROUP OF 77 MATERIALS MIGHT BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUMT.GARDNER

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